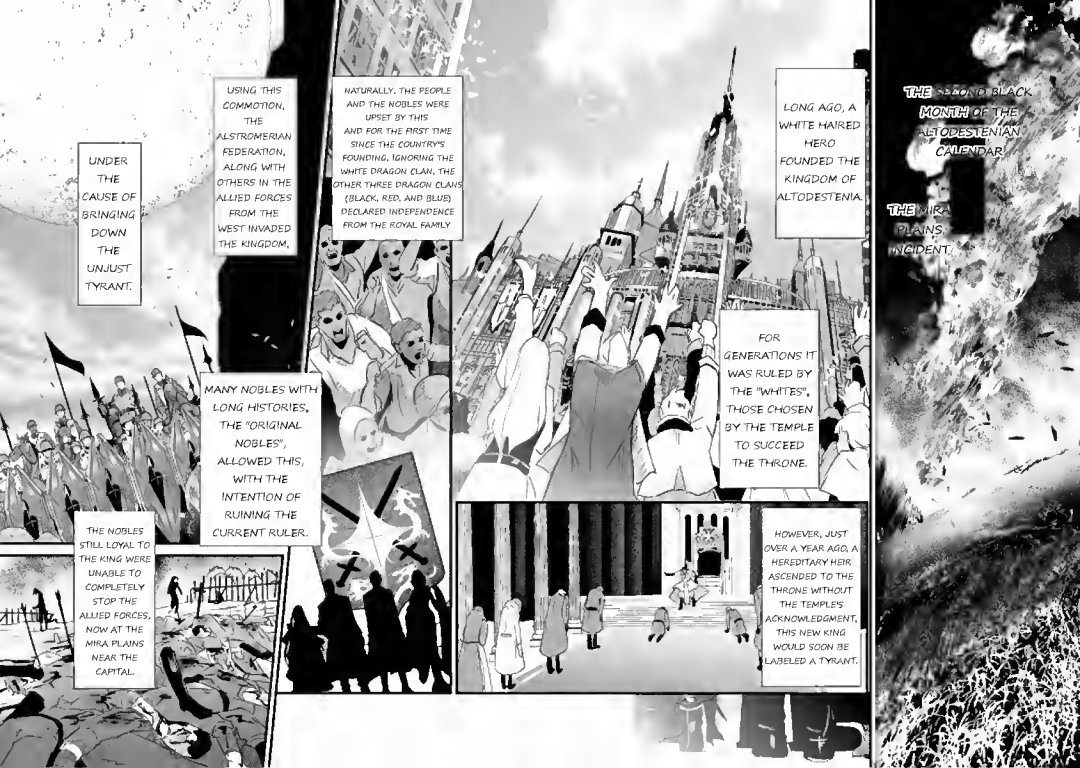
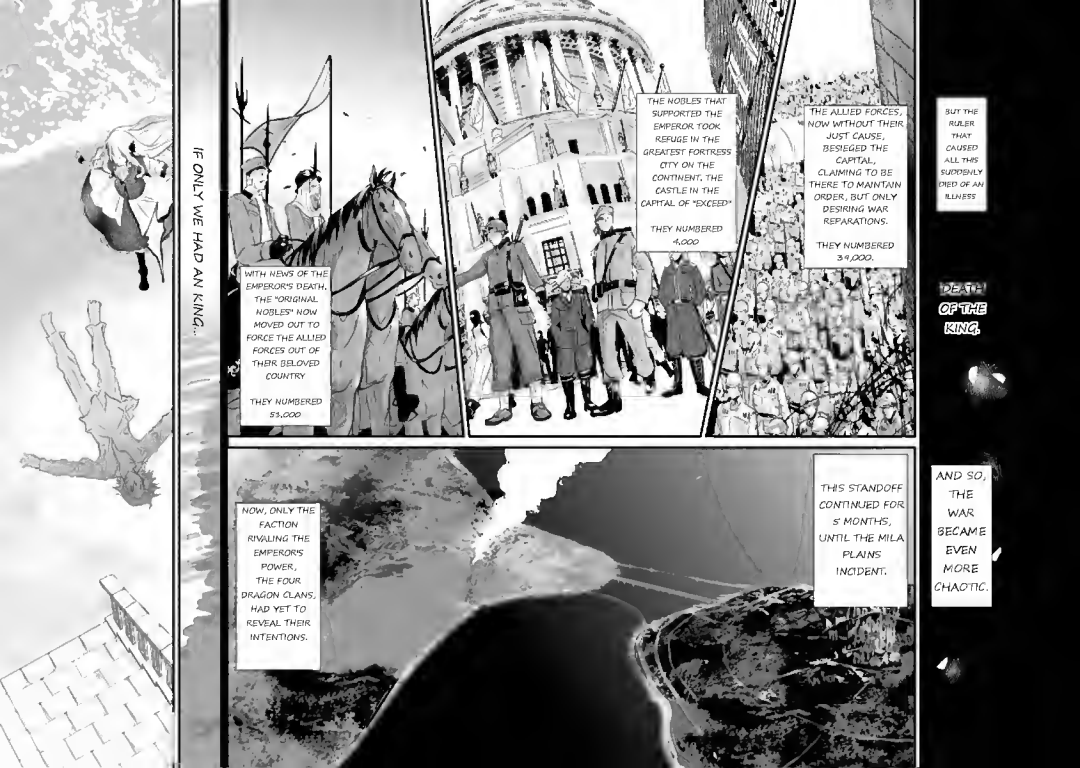
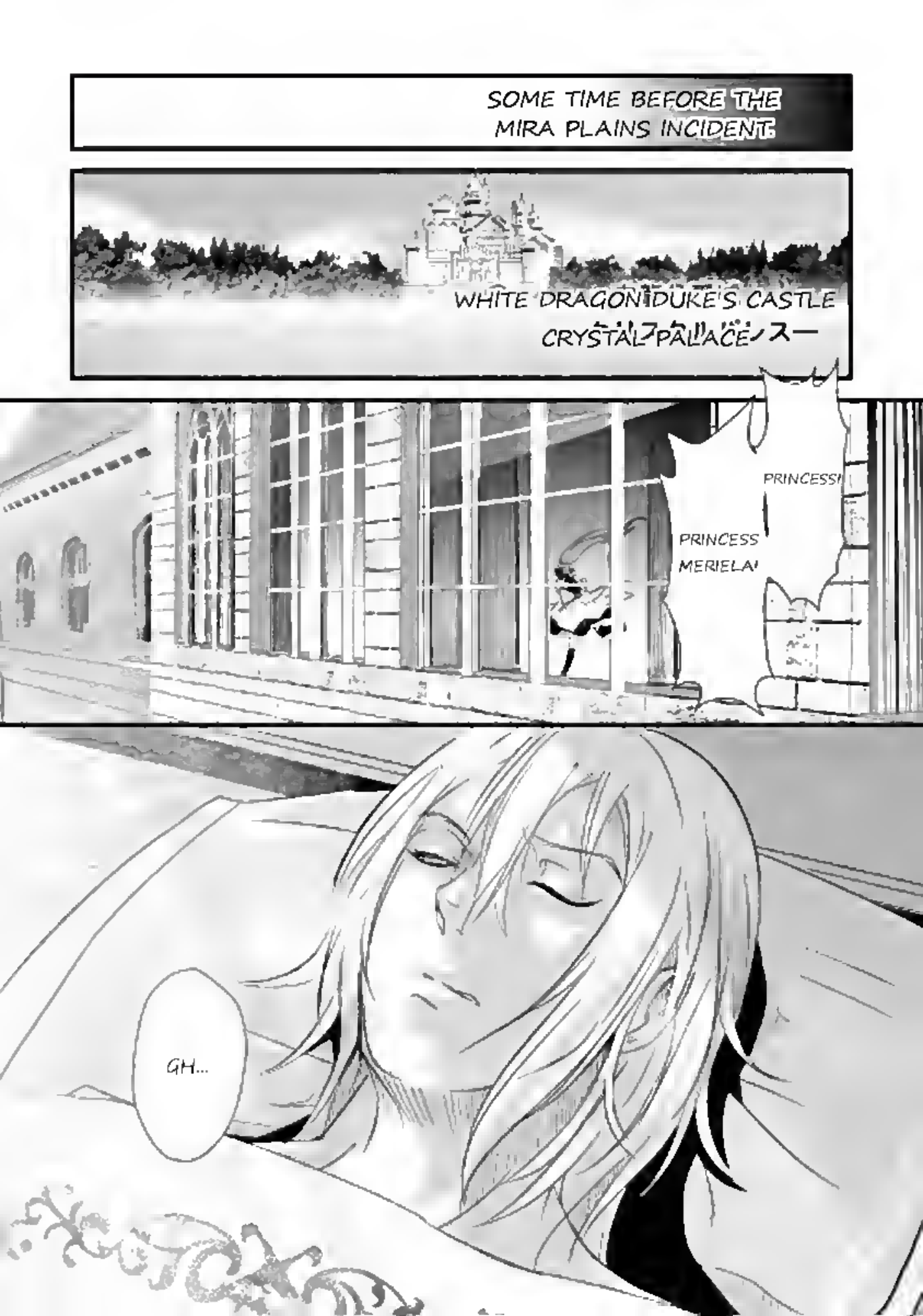
IF WE FIGHT HERE, WE'LL GET BOGGED DOWN!
TELL COMMAND THAT SOME IDIOT ATTACKED THE ALLIED FORCES!


LONG AGO, A WHITE HAIRED HERO FOUNDED THE KINGDOM OF ALTODESTENIA.
FOR GENERATIONS IT WAS RULED BY THE "WHITES", THOSE CHOSEN BY THE TEMPLE TO SUCCEED THE THRONE.
HOWEVER, JUST OVER A YEAR AGO, A HEREDITARY HEIR ASCENDED TO THE THRONE WITHOUT THE TEMPLE'S ACKNOWLEDGMENT. THIS NEW KING WOULD SOON BE LABELED A TYRANT.
THE SECOND BLACK MONTH OF THE ALTODESTENIAN CALENDAR.
THE MIRA PLAINS INCIDENT.
NATURALLY, THE PEOPLE AND THE NOBLES WERE UPSET BY THIS AND FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE COUNTRY'S FOUNDING, IGNORING THE WHITE DRAGON CLAN, THE OTHER THREE DRAGON CLANS (BLACK, RED, AND BLUE) DECLARED INDEPENDENCE FROM THE ROYAL FAMILY
USING THIS COMMOTION, THE ALSTROMERIAN FEDERATION, ALONG WITH OTHERS IN THE ALLIED FORCES FROM THE WEST INVADED THE KINGDOM.
UNDER THE CAUSE OF BRINGING DOWN THE UNJUST TYRANT.
MANY NOBLES WITH LONG HISTORIES, THE "ORIGINAL NOBLES", ALLOWED THIS, WITH THE INTENTION OF RUINING THE CURRENT RULER.
THE NOBLES STILL LOYAL TO THE KING WERE UNABLE TO COMPLETELY STOP THE ALLIED FORCES, NOW AT THE MIRA PLAINS NEAR THE CAPITAL.


IF ONLY WE HAD AN KING...
WITH NEWS OF THE EMPEROR'S DEATH, THE "ORIGINAL NOBLES" NOW MOVED OUT TO FORCE THE ALLIED FORCES OUT OF THEIR BELOVED COUNTRY
THEY NUMBERED 53,000
THE NOBLES THAT SUPPORTED THE EMPEROR TOOK REFUGE IN THE GREATEST FORTRESS CITY ON THE CONTINENT, THE CASTLE IN THE CAPITAL OF "EXCEED"
THEY NUMBERED 4,000
THE ALLIED FORCES, NOW WITHOUT THEIR JUST CAUSE, BESIEGED THE CAPITAL, CLAIMING TO BE THERE TO MAINTAIN ORDER, BUT ONLY DESIRING WAR REPARATIONS.
THEY NUMBERED 34,000.
BUT THE RULER THAT CAUSED ALL THIS SUDDENLY DIED OF AN ILLNESS
DEATH OF THE KING.
AND SO, THE WAR BECAME EVEN MORE CHAOTIC.
THIS STANDOFF CONTINUED FOR 5 MONTHS, UNTIL THE MILA PLAINS INCIDENT.
NOW, ONLY THE FACTION RIVALING THE EMPEROR'S POWER, THE FOUR DRAGON CLANS, HAD YET TO REVEAL THEIR INTENTIONS.

白の皇国物語
Shiro no Kōkoku Monogatari
原作：白沢戌亥
作画：不二まーゆ

-I HAVE DIED ALREADY-
IT STARTED WITH SUDDEN HEADACHES, CONFINING ME TO A BED. IN THE MOMENTS WITHOUT PAIN, I NOTICED THAT THE PAIN HAD GIVEN BIRTH TO A FEELING OF RESIGNATION.
I WONDER JUST WHEN I HAD BEGUN TO TAKE PRIDE IN HAVING GIVEN UP.
THERE WAS NOTHING I COULD DO, AND NOTHING LEFT FOR ME, ONLY RESIGNATION.
HOW DISAPPOINTING. I GUESS BIG BROTHER'S JUST A FAILURE
YOUR BROTHERS ARE DOING JUST FINE, SO WHY AREN'T YOU...
HUH? OH, THAT IDIOT?
HE FOUGHT GET INTO HIS SCHOOL OF CHOICE.
IN THE END, NOT ONCE DID A DESIRE TO LIVE ON APPEAR, I SIMPLY GAVE UP ON LIVING.
NOWAKE


SOME TIME BEFORE THE MIRA PLAINS INCIDENT.
WHITE DRAGON DUKE'S CASTLE
CRYSTAL PALACE
PRINCESS!
PRINCESS MERIELA!
GH...

ここ〜どこだ？
WHERE AM I?
そしてど〜う自分は誰だ
AND JUST WHO AM I?
自分は確かDEFINITELY DIED..だはずでは…
ハッ
！
ARE YOU ALRIGHT?

L-
LECTIVAL.
!?
UH,
AH,
YES.
THAT'S
GOOD
TO
HEAR,
WHAT IS
YOUR
NAME?
!...
MY
NAME...
THAT'S
RIGHT,
MY
NAME...
前は...!
AH...

I'M NOT SURE WHY I CALLED MYSELF LECTIVAL, BUT IT SEEMS RIGHT...
MY HAIR... IS WHITE?
HMM, IT IS...
WHITE HAIR IS RARE IN OUR COUNTRY,
IS YOUR HAIR NATURALLY WHITE?
WHILE WE OF THE WHITE DRAGON CLAN ALSO HAVE WHITE HAIR, IT'S ACTUALLY SILVER.
I SHALL TAKE MY LEAVE.
THOSE WHO POSSESS PURE WHITE HAIR CAN RULE AS THIS COUNTRY'S KING,
AND YOU MEET THAT REQUIREMENT.
AND..

THE EMPIRE IS CURRENTLY FACING A MAJOR CRISIS
IN THE ABSENCE OF A RULER, PUBLIC ORDER HAS CRUMBLED, ESPECIALLY NEAR THE CAPITAL.
WITH THEIR SUPPLY LINES CUT, THE ALLIED FORCES ARE TAKING WHATEVER THEY LACK, WEAPONS, FOOD, AND WOMEN
THEY PLUNDER WHATEVER THEY DESIRE.
EVEN THE "ORIGINAL NOBLES" CAN'T BEAR WATCHING WHAT IS HAPPENING, BUT THEY CANNOT MOVE IN FEAR OF THE ALLIED FORCES INFILTRATING THEIR LINES,
WHILE THE NOBLES IN THE CAPITAL ARE TOO FEW, AND MANY OF THEIR SOLDIERS ARE MERCENARIES WHO CARE ONLY ABOUT THEMSELVES.

AND WE OF THE FOUR DRAGON CLANS, WHO SHOULD BE PROTECTING THE LANDS IN THE EMPEROR'S PLACE ARE SIMPLY AVERTING OUR EYES.
EVEN NOW, THE PEOPLE ARE SUFFERING...
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR HAND?
WOULD YOU LIKE SOME TEA?
I TAKE PRIDE IN MY TEA.
I'M SORRY, MY HABIT GOT THE BETTER OF ME,

I-IT'S FINE, PEOPLE OF OUR RACE HEAL QUICKLY.
UGH...
YOUR SKIN IS SO PALE, AND NO DOUBT FRAIL.
LET ME SEE YOUR HAND.
I-IT'S NOTHING.
OR DO YOU PURPOSELY AVOID HEALING IN AN ATTEMPT TO FEEL THE PEOPLES' PAIN?
THAT'S-
YOU CAN HEAL QUICKLY, YET SUCH SMALL CUTS WON'T HEAL?
WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND THE PEOPLES' PAIN, THEN WE-
ISN'T IT NATURAL? AS THOSE THAT HAVE POWER
I

YOU SHOULD EXTEND A HELPING HAND TO THEM.
RATHER THAN FEELING THEIR PAIN,
I'M SURE THEY FEEL THAT WAY AS WELL.
A GENTLE SMILE BEST SUITS
YOUR LOVELY FACE.

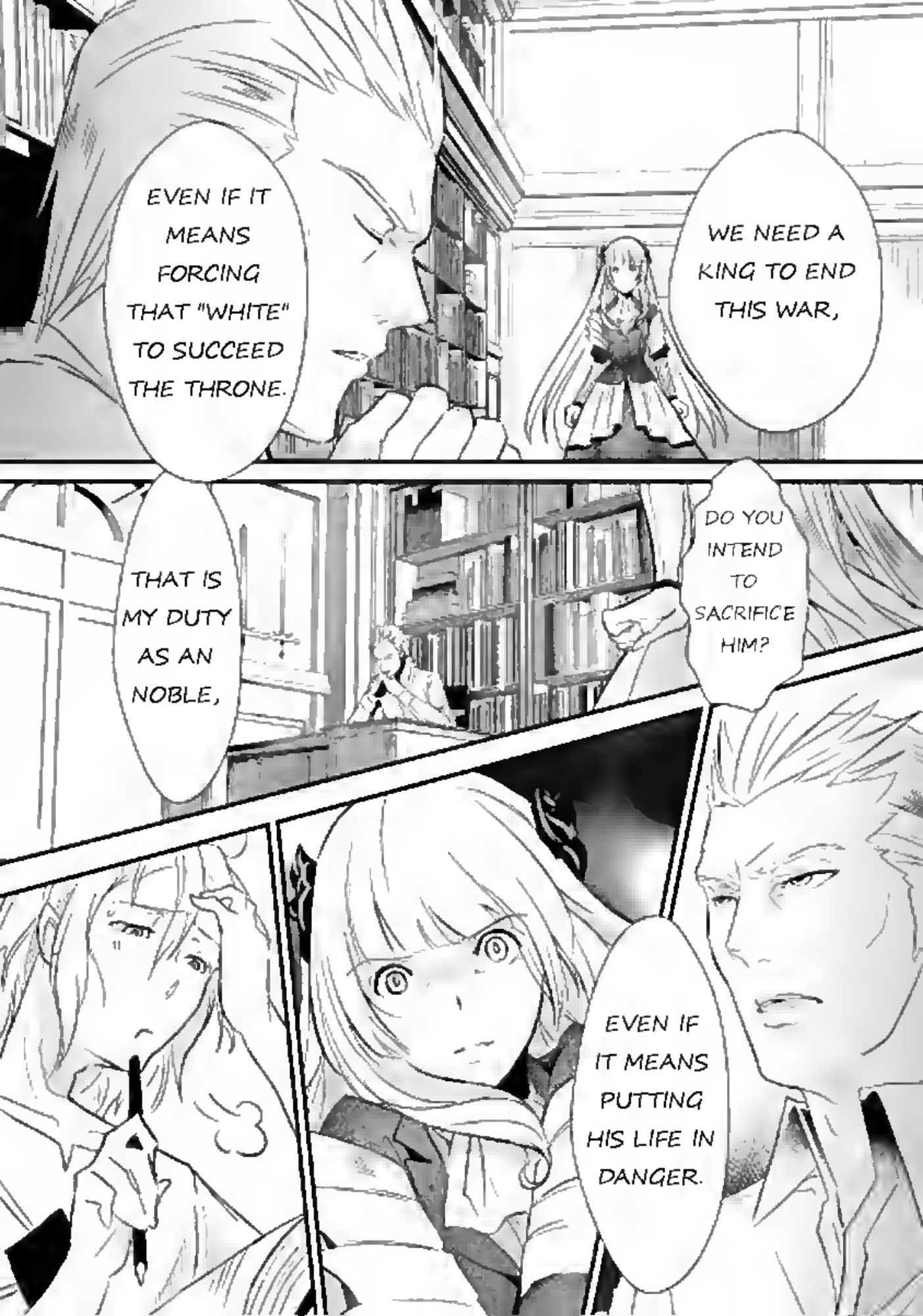
HE KNOWS FAR TOO LITTLE OF OUR WORLD, BUT
NO DOUBT IT'S TIED TO THOSE GENTLE SILVER EYES.
レクレクトゥアル、MEANING "MAN OF THE MOON" IN THE ANCIENT TONGUE...
FOR ME TO LIVE IN THIS WORLD AS MYSELF.
COULD YOU TEACH ME ABOUT THE WORLD?
VERY WELL.
TEACH HIM ABOUT THE KINGDOM.
PRINCESS.
OH, VILIA.

THE PRINCESS HAS BEEN ACTING ODD SINCE THAT DAY.
I'LL HAVE TO BE CAREFUL AROUND THIS "WHITE" MAN
THIS IS THE PRINCESS' A MAID ONLY SPEAKS THE TRUTH IDEA.
YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT?
EEK!
THIS IS FOR TODAY.
MANY OF THE ALLIED FORCES' COUNTRIES ARE HEREDITARY MONARCHIES, WHILE THE ALSTROMERIAN FEDERATION ELECTS THEIR LEADERS.
NOW THEN THE KINGDOM'S SUCCESSOR HAS ALWAYS BEEN CHOSEN NOT THROUGH HEREDITY, BUT THROUGH THE DECISION OF THE TEMPLE OF THE 4 WORLDS
I REALLY WISH SHE SAID IT WAS A JOKE...
JUST WHY IS THE PRINCESS SO ATTACHED TO THIS SHADY MAN?
SOMETIMES HE ACTS LIKE AN OLD MAN WHO HAS SEEN DEATH
UH, MISS VILIA,
IS SHE ALWAYS LIKE THAT?
OH, AND THE CURRENT WAR WAS CAUSED BY THE PREVIOUS KING SUCCEEDING THROUGH HEREDITY RATHER THAN BEING CHOSEN BY THE TEMPLE
AND WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY "THAT"?
DO YOU SPEAK OF THE PRINCESS?

AH.
EVEN A STRANGER LIKE ME CAN SEE THAT SHE'S PUSHING HERSELF,
TO JUST BOTTLE IT UP INSIDE...
PERHAPS IT'S PERFECTLY NORMAL TO HER
もしHAS THIS MAN の男
正姫 UNDERSTOOD THE PRINCESS' THOUGHTS?
OH, AND...
ISN'T TODAY'S LESSON A BIT ROUGH?
I DIDN'T GET HALF OF IT HAHA

PLEASE RETHINK THIS.
HE'S JUST A YOUNG MAN I HELPED, HOW DOES HE HAVE ANY RELATION TO THIS COUNTRY'S POLITICS?
FATHER!
HOWEVER, HE IS A "WHITE" WHO HAS APPEARED AT OUR CASTLE DURING THIS TIME.
WE SHOULD TAKE HIM TO THE TEMPLE WITH HASTE TO HAVE HIM RECOGNIZED AS A TRUE "WHITE".
ONCE HE'S RECOGNIZED, WE'LL IMMEDIATELY GO THROUGH WITH THE SUCCESSION CEREMONY AND HAVE HIM INVESTED AS AS THE CROWN PRINCE

WE CAN DEAL WITH THAT AFTER HE'S BEEN INVESTED.
BUT THE SUCCESSION NORMALLY REQUIRES OVER 20 YEARS OF TRAINING AND EDUCATION!
IF WE GO THROUGH WITH THE SUCCESSION NOW, PEOPLE WILL DIE!


EVEN IF IT MEANS FORCING THAT "WHITE" TO SUCCEED THE THRONE.
WE NEED A KING TO END THIS WAR,
THAT IS MY DUTY AS AN NOBLE,
DO YOU INTEND TO SACRIFICE HIM?
EVEN IF IT MEANS PUTTING HIS LIFE IN DANGER.